

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Buildings 2482, 2483, and 2484 Inventory Number: HA-2157

Address: Aberdeen Area City: Aberdeen Proving Ground Zip Code: 21005-5001

County: Harford USGS Topographic Map: Perryman

Owner: U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground Is the property being evaluated a district? N/A Yes

Tax Parcel Number: N/A Tax Map Number: N/A Tax Account ID Number: N/A

Installation Information Infrastructure Modernization

Project: Program (I3MP) Agency: U.S. Army, Aberdeen Proving Ground

Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

If the property is within a district

District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☐ yes ☒ No

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Buildings 2482, 2483, and 2484 are located north of Aberdeen Boulevard and east of Maryland Boulevard at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The buildings were constructed in 1941 as part of the temporary cantonment constructed during the World War II expansion of the Ordnance Center and School. The buildings form a U-shaped compound; two applied instruction buildings (Buildings 2482 and 2484) share a district heating plant (Building 2483).

Description

The applied instruction buildings (Buildings 2482 and 2484) are identical in design and are utilitarian, one-story, industrial shops that measure 68 x 122 feet. The buildings rest on concrete foundations topped by approximately four-foot, concrete-block walls. The upper walls are steel frame with a continuous band of industrial sash windows on all elevations reaching just below the eave. The windows have continuous concrete sills. The upper walls are clad with corrugated metal. The gable roofs are sheathed with composition roll roofing. Each entry into the

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments: _____

Jonathan B. ages
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Blum
Reviewer, NR Program

5/5/08
Date

5/1/08
Date

200800985

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building comprises a metal overhead track door and a single metal door enframed by a bolted metal surround. One entry is centered on the north gable end of each building and another entry is centered in the long elevation that fronts onto the open space between the buildings. Typical changes to the buildings include installation of sections of metal siding to replace the industrial sash windows, replacement of overhead doors, replacement of roofing materials, and painting over of windows.

The district heating plant (Building 2483) is a tall, one-story, rectangular utility building that measures approximately 37 x 27 feet with a one-story lean-to addition along the rear elevation. The building is constructed of concrete block and rests on a concrete foundation. The building has a shallow gable roof sheathed with composition roll roofing. The windows are metal-frame, nine-light windows with concrete sills. An overhead track door is located in the side elevation. The heating plant was converted from coal to oil in 1956.

History

This group of buildings originally was constructed during World War II as part of the overall expansion program to support the training mission of the Ordnance Training Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The Ordnance School was established at Aberdeen Proving Ground during the late 1930s. A complex of permanent Colonial-Revival style school buildings was constructed between 1938 and 1940.

During World War II, the Ordnance Training Center was greatly expanded to accommodate the increased numbers of officers and enlisted personnel in the ordnance training programs. The World War II ordnance training program was organized into three units: the Ordnance School, the Ordnance Replacement Training Center, and the Unit Training Center. The purpose of this organizational structure was to train entire ordnance companies, to train individual personnel for assignment to established ordnance companies, and to train trainers to disseminate ordnance training in the field.

Additional land was acquired through condemnation to expand the complex. In December 1940, work was begun to construct 402 buildings, which was known as Camp Rodman. The project was constructed using standardized plans supplied by the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps. Irwin and Leighton of Philadelphia were the prime contractors; Albright and Friel were the architects.

Most buildings constructed during the expansion program were wood-frame temporary mobilization buildings arranged in blocks with barracks, mess halls, and personnel support buildings. The wood-frame temporary buildings have since been removed. As part of this building program, 22 permanent applied instruction buildings also were constructed. Permanent buildings were sometimes constructed as part of temporary cantonments for utilities or shops.

The applied instruction buildings at Aberdeen Proving Ground were basically industrial shops that housed applied technical training activities. Applied technical training activities included a wide range of maintenance and repairs for all classes of ordnance equipment ranging from small arms and large artillery pieces to tanks, trucks, and other automotive equipment. The interior of each applied instruction building was a large unfinished space with a line of rooms along one gable end of the building. The rooms were latrines, offices, and storage areas. No records have been uncovered to document the specific training that occurred in Buildings 2482, 2483, and 2484.

Camp Rodman was geographically dispersed to accommodate the expanded training programs and to segregate personnel by rank and race. Blocks of barracks with mess halls were constructed south and west of the permanent Colonial Revival stone buildings housing the Ordnance School. An area for officers was located north of the Aberdeen Boulevard. Smaller groups of barracks were located west along Aberdeen Boulevard.

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In general, applied training buildings were dispersed throughout the camp and sited close to large groups of barracks. Six sets of applied instruction buildings, including Buildings 2482, 2483, and 2484, were located north of Aberdeen Boulevard. Each complex typically comprised two applied instruction buildings sharing a single heating plant. The area between the two applied instruction buildings was open space. Currently the six sets of applied instruction buildings are surrounded by buildings constructed during the last 40 years to support installation personnel and their dependents after the World War II temporary buildings were removed.

Evaluation

Buildings 2482, 2483, and 2484 are utilitarian shops that supported applied training activities during World War II. Surviving records do not document that important specific events (Criterion A) or individuals (Criterion B) are associated with these buildings. The buildings individually possess no significance for their design applying National Register Criterion C due to subsequent exterior alterations that compromise integrity of materials and design. Although the buildings were constructed as part of a much larger mobilization training camp, the remaining buildings do not constitute a district due to the removal of the World War II temporary buildings and the construction of modern buildings along Aberdeen Boulevard that compromise the integrity of setting, feeling, and association with World War II construction to qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

References

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Directorate of Installation Operations (DOI)

Real property records, drawings files.

Goodwin, R. Christopher, & Associates, Inc.

1996 Ordnance School Historic District, Aberdeen Proving Ground National Register Nomination. Prepared for Cultural Resources Manager, Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Green, Constance McLaughlin, Harry C. Thomson, and Peter C. Roots

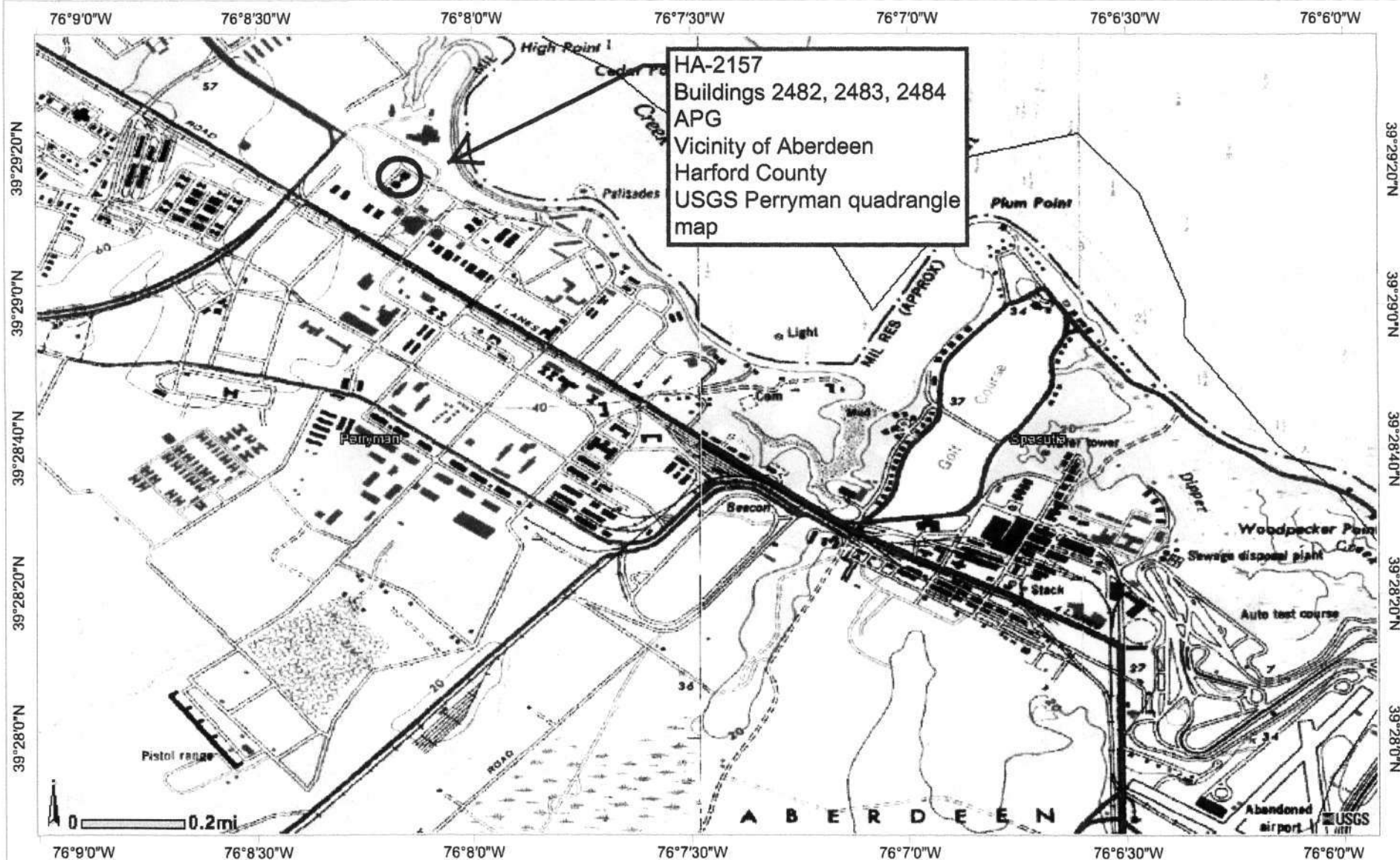
1990 *The Ordnance Department: Planning Munitions for War*. Center for Military History, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)

n.d. Record Group 77, Entry 391, Aberdeen Proving Ground. College Park, Maryland.

Prepared by: Katherine Grandine, R.
Christopher Goodwin &
Associates, Inc.

Date Prepared: September 2006



HA-2157
 Buildings 2482, 2483, 2484
 APG
 Vicinity of Aberdeen
 Harford County
 USGS Perryman quadrangle
 map



39°29'37"N
 76°9'0.03"W Map Extent 76°5'55.57"W
 39°27'47"N



Geographic Coordinate System (WGS84)